



Saved by Christ Connected by Love Called to Care



### UPCOMING SERMONS

SERIES: The Book of Hebrews

October 3 *Jesus is Prophet, Priest, King* - communion will be served

Read Chapter 1 Hebrews 1:1-4



October 10: *Jesus is Better!* - **FALL KICK OFF** - picnic lunch provided following service

Read Chapters 2&3 Hebrews 2:5-18

October 17: *Approach the Throne with Confidence*

Read Chapter 4 Hebrews 4:12-16

October 24: *Keep Growing!*

Hebrews 5:11-6:3

October 31: *Eternally Free*

Hebrews 8:6-12, 9:11-15, 25-28

### Fall Sermon Series:

#### The Book of Hebrews Oct 3-Nov 21

The book of Hebrews was written to people in crisis. They were persecuted, tempted by the rampant sin around them, and doubting their faith in Jesus. It was not so different than what many of us go through today. This fall we'll hear how the Book of Hebrews helps us live for Jesus in every season of life; trusting that Jesus Christ truly is better than anything the world can offer! We simply need to answer, "Am I willing to trust him above everything else?" To help you grow through this preaching series, in addition to listening to the Sunday sermons, you're encouraged to check out a video Bible Study by Pastor Derwin Gray on our Right Now Media channel, and to read the Scripture texts listed each week.

### SCC Events in October

#### Save the Date:

- 1 - OVERTIME following SHS football game
- 5 - Christian Formation Meeting 6:30pm
- 8 - Marriage Night 5:30pm
- 10 - Fall Kick-off Picnic, Go and Grow begins
- 11 - Sacraments & Visitation Meeting 6:30pm
- 12 - Council Meeting 6:00pm
- 20 - Pastoral Relations Meeting 5:00pm
- 22 - OVERTIME - final one of the year
- 24 - Welcome new members
- 30 - Fall Clean-Up 9:00am
- 31 - **All Saints Day - get pictures to Terri McCready by Oct. 17 for video**

**From our Moderator:** Saranac Community Church is a family of cheerful givers, giving of your time, talent, and treasures. I want to personally thank all of you for your generous giving in the past but particularly in this time of covid. As many of you know, these challenging times have required us to make some adjustments in church life. One of the areas is in our financial management. Just as you try to keep within your budget at home, so do we in leadership for the church. However, this has been challenging because of decreased giving this year. Through September 26<sup>th</sup> our giving has been \$147,626.53 while our budget says we should be at \$187,499.91, (this is based on giving of \$4807.69 per week). Because of this shortfall, your Church Council is actively working to reduce our spending and to decrease our 2022 budget. I am asking you to please join us in praying for wisdom and discernment about how to best address this shortfall, while remaining faithful to our God-given mission. Surely God has a plan for our future! Our God is a loving giving God, just as we have loving giving people in our church family. Our God is an awesome God and none of what is going on in our country or the world is a surprise to him. Thank you and may God continue to bless you and your family. Luke Brogger, Moderator



***A Note from one of our missionaries:***

Hello Pastor Becky and everyone at Saranac Community Church,

In Kiel the leaves are changing and the temperature is slowly dropping! Fall is a great reminder that nothing is constant. We are always changing and being asked to change and adapt. We are thankful to be connected with you and support one another through this season of change!

We wanted to share some highlights from the summer and share plans for the upcoming season of ministry!

Summer was the season in which our pastoral "training wheels" came off! Pastor Willi was on vacation for most of July, which meant we carried more responsibility in day-to-day church life. It was intense, in the best possible way! We both grew as leaders during this time and went deeper in relationship with many in our church.

The beginning of Fall brings the new small group semester. For Phillip, this means monthly check-in calls with small group leaders and coaches, recruitment of new coaches, and oversight of the FeG Kiel small group ministry. 20 groups registered for the Fall semester! Many are meeting in person for the first time since the pandemic began. Please pray for courage, safety and community discipleship. Just as it is in the US, "Covid fatigue" is running high in Germany and many are feeling isolated and lonely.

One very exciting development is that our leadership wishes for FeG Kiel to become a more missional, healthy church. To this end, we are looking at hiring a consultant whose ministry is to help churches go forward in mission and learn how to share the gospel with friends, coworkers, and neighbors. We were introduced to this consultant by an FeG Church in Hamburg who is working with him and seeing major transformation. Would you pray for our church as we discern next steps in deconstructing/reconstructing our approach to church, ministry and mission?

Thank you for covering us in prayer as we serve FeG Kiel. More and more, we sense God has led us to this people, to this place, for this time. Despite what is happening in our world, we feel grateful for the chance to live out our ministry calling together with you.

As always--we're available to connect via Zoom or e-mail. We'd love to hear from you!

Gods peace to you in this season of change,  
Phillip Volland, Global Personnel for the Evangelical Covenant Church

THANK YOU: Many thanks to Doug and Beth VanProoyen for their efforts to repair and paint two of our classrooms in the lower southwest corner of our building. Past moisture issues had caused damage that needed attention and these two members of the Building and Grounds stepped forward to address these issues. Well done!



### Earn rebates for the 2022 summer camp season.

Due date for our next scrip gift card order is **Sunday, October 10th**, which will be available Thursday, October 14th at the church office. Delivery of cards can also be arranged. Contact Mark with your order or order online by visiting [www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com) and selecting Saranac Community Church with the enrollment code of C632F5C52395L. It is very easy to do this and your order is automatically sent to our church scrip coordinator. You may also bring your payment to church or pay online for a small 15¢ fee. Remember, you can reload or print many cards at **any time** during the month if you enroll in PrestoPay. Use the new Scrip phone app to make ordering easier. Scrip also now offers the option of having select gift cards shipped directly to you any time during the month for an additional fee. **There are usually a limited number of Meijer and Speedway scrip cards available for purchase in the church office as well.** If you have any questions on how this program works please contact Mark Fritsma ([MarkF@wowway.com](mailto:MarkF@wowway.com)).

**Earn rebates to reduce the cost of sending SCC kids to Portage Lake or a similar camp.** Start now and your child could possibly go to camp for FREE in 2022. We also hope that UNITE (CHIC) and the DR Mission Trip will occur again sometime in the future. You can still participate and help build the scholarship fund even if you do not have a camp aged child. We also consider scholarship requests for church related functions, such as retreats and mission trips, from adults as well.

- 01 - Sue Zoodsma
- 02 - Sarah Bush  
Teresa Krieger
- 05 - Sharon Blanchard
- 09 - Bryce Klahn
- 10 - Chris Lasby  
Becca Loser
- 13 - Fran Borup
- 14 - Joel Fritsma  
Charleene Kingsley
- 17 - Patrick Kelly  
Natalie Klahn
- 20 - Jackie Borup  
Hope Helmski
- 21 - Scott Lasby
- 22 - Connie Biggs
- 25 - Beth VanProoyen

Let the office know if your name is missing and you would like it included.



September 17, 2021

Dear Presidential Nominating Committee,

Thank you for the honor and privilege of serving as your president during this term. I am continually humbled and inspired by our gifted and dedicated leaders and pastors.

Through great prayer and discernment, I have decided to purposefully withdraw from being considered for nomination to a second term as president. I hope this advance notice before your process begins gives you the time and focus needed to complete the assignment of presenting a candidate at Gather 2022.

I know beyond a doubt that God called me for this presidential term, but I sincerely believe a different set of gifts may serve the Covenant better going forward. After prayerful consideration with my wife Julie, my family, and close confidants, I do not sense God is calling me to a second term. I was elected to serve as the leader of the Covenant for a season. Now, we are ready for a new leader, for a new season. There are many gifted, potential candidates from across the mosaic—women and men of all backgrounds—who, like me, love the Covenant, its identity, history, mission, and potential.

I rejoice over all we have accomplished together. I have given of myself completely to our stated task: to join God in God's mission to see more disciples among more populations in a more caring and just world. With the partnership and collaboration of Covenant leaders, I am grateful to leave a Christ-honoring legacy of fostering the flourishing of women, advancing the mission through the multiethnic mosaic of churches, the addition of "practicing solidarity" to the Six-Fold Test, and a renewed emphasis on a conscious dependence on the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 4:3 reminds us: "Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace." May the conclusion of this discernment contribute in some way to the forward momentum and unity of our mission. The ethos of "mission friends" is our roots; a mosaic of mission friends is our future.

I love the Evangelical Covenant Church in all our beauty and brokenness. Together, we will labor to complete the last months of my term with vigor. You can count on me to help orient a new president.

Be well, my beloved sisters and brothers.

For God's glory and neighbor's good,

John S. Wenrich  
President

## Food Pantry (Saranac/Clarksville):

**October 7 2-4pm**

**Sparrow Mobile Health Clinic** will also be here from 1:30-4:30.

Visit [Sparrow.org/MobileClinic](http://Sparrow.org/MobileClinic) for more information

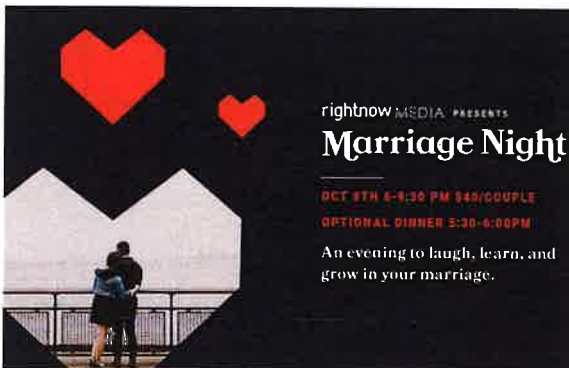
**October 21 2-4pm**

**No Food Trucks until further notice**



## Marriage Night Simulcast on Oct 8th

**from 6-9:30pm**



This one-night event is a great time for married/engaged couples to laugh and learn together from marriage experts (JD & Veronica Greer, Aaron & Jamie Ivey, Jonathon & Kanika Evans) about how to honor God through their relationship. There will also be comedy provided by Dustin Nickerson and light refreshments too. The cost is \$40 per couple. **Please register through Right Now Media at <https://events.rightnowmedia.org/attendee/site/5245> or sign up for Right Now Media at:**

<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Account/Invite/SaranacCC>

You're also invited to attend an Optional Dinner from 5:30-6pm. **Please register for this separately with the church office.** Donations are welcomed to help with the cost of the food. Scholarships are also available to help with the simulcast fee.

**Reminders:** We do need the permission of whomever you ask to have put on prayer chain if they are able, an immediate family member if they are not. Also, if you leave a note in the office, please put your name on it so we know who to ask if there is a question. Thank you!

## **PRAYER WARRIORS NEEDED!**

One way we can stay Connected by Love is thru prayer! As James 5:16 says "...confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. "

**Please email the church office if you have a prayer concern or would like to be added to our church Prayer Chain.**



### **Prayer Needs for the Week of 10/1 :**

*Family of Gloria Hubbard*

*Jillian Merrifield, Nora Bogaslaski, Estelle Stark, Jamie (Zoodsma)*

*Mark Reffitt, Nancy Polly, Lasby Family*

*Pray for our nation and other countries, especially Afghanistan,*

*Haiti and those affected by Hurricane Ida*

**Senior Citizens:** *Eleanor Talcott, Joyce Walter*

**SCC Leader of the Week:** *Sharon Darby, Chair of Stewardship*

**Saranac Area Businesses:** *Saranac Dental Care, Saranac Ventures*

**Community Groups:** *CROP Walk Ionia County and Church World Service for the financial support of our Food Pantry.*

**Area Churches:** *St. Anthony Catholic Church*

**Our Church Leaders, Government and Military**

## **It's Shoebox Season!**

Shoebox season is here, which means we once again have the privilege to help share the Good News of Jesus Christ with millions of boys and girls around the world—like Stefana in Madagascar. Twelve-year-old Stefana was thrilled when he opened his gift-filled box and found a new pair of shoes that fit him just right. The special present helped him see God's love for him. Stefana and five other family members then began attending church. They all prayed to receive Christ as Savior and were recently baptized! "Stefana is a special boy," his pastor said. "He loves learning God's Word." And it all started with a shoebox!

**SCC has provided filled Shoeboxes to Samaritan's Purse for 21 years, for a grand total of 1,548 boxes!**

Think of all the children and families impacted by your simple gifts. The children also receive books and teaching, leading them to Jesus. Now is the time to find school supplies on sale, and to start gathering items to fill the boxes. We do have boxes from Samaritan's Purse and will have them on display soon, along with brochures explaining the mission. If you would like to help and be a key person for this project, please call the church office, 642-6322. Thanks for all your help!



# SCC Monthly Prayer List

***"Pray without ceasing."***

*1 Thessalonians 5:17*



## Homebound:

Joyce Vroman

## Cancer:

Edward Bignall  
Sara Bowen  
Paula DeYoung

Brad Edwards  
Karen Haskins  
Bill Hecht  
Evelyn Hecht

Mike Hecht  
Steven Hodgkins  
Bruce & Valerie Hubble  
Ann Meyers

Pat Moore  
Bryce Stewart

## Medical:

Barbara Barry  
Connie Biggs  
Rachelle Biggs  
Sawyer & Daxton Blain  
Jim Blanchard  
Sharon Blanchard  
Jack Cisler  
Ronald Clouse  
Mae Coulson  
Gary Courey  
Norris Cove

Rosalie DeYoung  
Carter Downs  
Valerie Emelander  
Barb Estes  
Joyce Hamp  
Patricia Hamp  
Winnie Holmes  
Mitchell Jackson  
Marie Kellogg  
Joel Kirby  
Lasby Family  
Frank Leasure

Becca Lóser  
Eva Maile  
Amy McElvain  
Connor McElvain  
Chris Meyer  
Kim Miller  
Lila Grace Nelson  
Marilyn Poor  
Dave Precord  
Jim Precord  
Nichole Precord  
Patrick Rieth

Joel Seguna  
Dan Simmons  
Greg Smith  
Estelle Stark  
Karen Taylor  
Dave Washburn  
Colin & Eleanor  
Williams



## Military

## Friends:

Riley Bedard  
Zach Bevington  
Kristin Carl  
Jasmine Chadwick

Kameron Conroe  
Travis Denny  
Alec Doll  
Ethan Ettinger  
Tyler Gorby  
Landon Hall  
Audra Hawkins  
Kyle Hill

Levi Jackson  
Jared Johnson  
Tyler Johnson  
Ben Littlejohn  
Kevin Long  
Andy Lytle  
Ian Manion  
Trey Matthews

Charlie Miller  
Patrick Miller  
Maverick Musser  
Jon Powers  
Richie Sands  
Mitchell Simmons  
Ryan Sweet  
Brian Swiger

Conor Talcott  
Claire Tribbett  
Cody Westbrook  
Robert Westover  
Jim Whittum  
Jayne Wilson  
Bryant Zander

## SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS 10/3

Lay Leader: Connie Biggs

Singers: Terri Powers, Jim Lóser

Praise Team: Nancy Downs, Bob Krieger,  
Ken Poor

Tech Team: Brien and Beth Simpson

Nursery: Carolyn Westbrook

Usher: Harvey Flanagan

Acolytes: volunteers needed

Refreshments: Benjamin family

THANK  
YOU!

Sparrow and the Ionia County Health Department are bringing healthcare to a neighborhood near you.

Services include: immunizations, community resource connections, health information, and more.

**Saranac Community Church**  
125 S. Bridge St., Saranac  
Thursday, October 7 | 1:30-4:30 p.m.

For more information, visit [Sparrow.org/MobileClinic](https://Sparrow.org/MobileClinic).

Please direct questions to the Sparrow Mobile Health Clinic team at [SparrowMobileHealthClinic@Sparrow.org](mailto:SparrowMobileHealthClinic@Sparrow.org) or call 517.364.8178.

**Bring your pop cans in to support the Alzheimer's Association.** If you have a lot and would like them picked up, just let the office know.



# OVERTIME

## Fall 2021

**Free Pop and Pizza for all High School students  
after varsity home football games**

**October 1, 22**

**SEEK CHRIST TOGETHER In WORSHIP SUNDAY'S  
at 10am in person or on the SCC Facebook page**

Please join us for worship on Sunday's by logging onto the Saranac Community Church Facebook page at 10am.

Senior Pastor: Becky Poor  
[pastorbecky@saranacchurch.org](mailto:pastorbecky@saranacchurch.org)

Secretary: Kathy Hawkins

[churchoffice@saranacchurch.org](mailto:churchoffice@saranacchurch.org) ~ 642-6322

Office hours: Monday-Thurs 9am-1pm, Fri 9am-12pm